

The proposed merger of Echostar and GM Hughes is absolutely essential if the US is to have fair and equitable competition between the incumbent cable monopoly and the nascent satellite industry. You see, cable has huge advantages - mainly that they are already in 70% of homes that subscribe to TV - over satellite, and the cable industry SHOULD HAVE COMPETITION.

By allowing cable to 'divide and conquer' satellite, regulators will ensure that cable is never displaced. Please allow satellite to compete on an even playing field. Consumers - and, yes, I mean those in rural America - will benefit from this merger. All American will enjoy the benefits of stronger - not weaker - competition.

Sincerely,  
Geoff Karren  
President  
Internet College Athletics Network, Inc.